

Air

KGBA

Chief of Station, Bonn

8 January 1953

Chief, Berlin Operations Base

CART/Operational

CABANJO

1. The following operational and personal notes should serve to aid you in your task in establishing friendly personal and professional relations with Subject.

2. Subject is a former high ranking SS officer, who occupied positions of great trust and importance under the aegis of the RSHA. You will do well to read up on the voluminous background information contained in COM's files on Subject.

3. Subject's last position was that of chief of the Sicherheitsdienst in Milano under the Höchste SS and Polizeiführer KLEFF (whose guts he hates). He was a close friend of SS Standartenführer KAPPLER, SD chief in Rome, who took the rap for the execution of 300 hostages in a cave near Rome.

4. Subject took a very prominent part in warfare waged by the German security service against Italian partisans during 1944 and 1945. He has no apology to make for what he did; to his partisans were Communists and those Allied services which supported them were woefully misguided. There is no sense in arguing this point with him, especially since history may prove him right.

5. Subject disavows all part in atrocities, and painstaking Allied investigations have failed to buttress charges to the contrary. There are some indications, in fact, that Subject made many Italian friends, not necessarily in sympathy with Fascism. In "Operation Sunrise" he played a marginal role.

glp:bjt

Distribution:

2 Bonn

3 COM

3 ST

1 BOF

CABANJO = Theo Saevecke

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

(2)(A) Privacy ☐

(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒

(2)(C) Foreign Relations ☐

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6. Subject's hatred of communism is unfeigned. He is a calm and rather unemotional individual. This should not deceive you as to the intensity of his feelings about communism. It is an elementary, searing, and completely unreasoning loathing and while he may pay lip service to the due processes of law, he would undoubtedly shrink from nothing in suppressing that movement. I have seldom come closer to an agent in whose anti-communism I would deposit complete trust. His adherence to concepts of western democracy is skin deep. He likes and respects Americans, seeing in them the strongest bulwark against communist expansionism. His personal allegiance to us will not outlast the day on which we come to terms with the USSR.

7. Subject's wife, 31 years old, was raped by Soviet soldiers close to one hundred times. She and her little child were in Pomerania for six months. She tried twice in vain to kill herself and her child during that time. As a result of her experiences she contracted an organic heart disease and may not live much longer. She is pursued by harrowing dreams in which she relives her Russian experiences. (No doubt, psychological treatment should be tried).

8. Subject's aged parents live in Mecklenburg. His father is a pensioned Stadtobersekretär. They live in utter misery and only the possession of a house keeps them from seeking refuge in the east. They visited their son in West Berlin during the Christmas holidays.

9. Subject has a highly developed sense of personal friendship and loyalty. A man he greatly admires is CAUTERY 1, whose name will frequently turn up in your conversations. (FYI: be wary on the point of discharging CAUTERY 1, but on second thought decided to retain him on "political" grounds).

10. In discussing Nazism, a topic best avoided, don't feel any compulsion to humor Subject. I have never made intellectual sacrifices in voicing my opinions about the creed and its representatives, about SS, SD, and RSHA and concentration camps. In fact, it may do well to grasp the first opportunity to tell him where you stand. He knows that it needed a lot of persuading on the part of CAUTERY 1 to make us accept him as a "Mitarbeiter".

11. Subject is a North German prototype study, tough, proud, reliable, with a salty sense of humor. He spent his youth and formative years, sailing the seven seas on a schooner under the flag of the famed Loitz Line, owners of a fleet of boats which plied between Hamburg and Chile, carrying saltwater. He loves to collect all sorts of knick knacks connected with sail boats, and at heart he will always remain a sailor.

*Cautery 1 = Hans Lobbes*

EGBA 2509

12. The relationship between Subject and myself remained at all times formal. I have some reason for believing that although he respected me professionally, he considered me a rather cold fish. In managing him and his colleagues, we cemented a close and at times very productive relationship by continued solicitude for them and their family's personal welfare, which they appreciated. Our support, however, was at no time lavish. Conversely, Subject never submitted to us a personal request.

13. Subject is not interested in regular police work. His chosen field, for which he feels well qualified, is III F. He wants to stay with this organization only if it continues to be charged with responsibilities in the counter espionage field. If e.g. ZIPPER should move into that field he would be more than amenable to transferring. Bear this fact in mind, because Subject's attitude vis-à-vis ZIPPER is no doubt being influenced by professional long range considerations.

14. Subject is personally close to his deputy and another member of his staff, a former submarine captain (the same escaped me). He respects CARAVEL professionally, but that is as far as it goes. He knows that CARAVEL went over to the enemy during the war, and surmises that during CARAVEL's Swiss sojourn he had intelligence contacts (although CARAVEL in talking with Subject once denied this). I have displayed moderate interest in CARAVEL's person on the ostensible grounds that I believe him to be CARTER 1's chief opponent. When Subject in a somewhat studied aside let drop that he thought CARAVEL had American contacts, I feigned surprise, and asked Subject whether that wasn't an essential part of CARAVEL's job? CARAVEL once told Subject that one reason why he had chosen Subject for the job was that he as Roman Catholic respected people who stand up for their beliefs; by the same token he abhorred apostates.

15. Subject knows me as a strong believer in a political police system with all the trimmings; the model being the old pre-Hitler TA of the Berlin Polizeipräsidium. He also knows that I am not reflecting official American views on that score. You are free to chose whatever side on this issue you prefer, bearing in mind that beyond peradventure the "executive" school of thought will come out on top, whether we like it or not.

Approved by:

CARAVEL = Paul Dickopf